

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Communication mailed June 24, 2002, and supplements the response filed March 22, 2002 (wherein entry of a replacement paragraph on related application data was requested). By the present communication, a marked up copy of the paragraph containing related application data is enclosed herein as Exhibit A. Accordingly, entry of the amendment to this paragraph (originally presented in the response filed March 22, 2002) is respectfully requested.

OK
In addition, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that incorporation of the prior related applications by reference constitutes new matter. In accordance with the filing of a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b), in the papers filed with the present application on June 28, 2000, Applicants requested insertion of the subject paragraph, wherein the subject paragraph included language incorporating the related applications by reference. Thus, Applicants incorporated by reference the disclosures of the related applications into the present application as of the filing date of the present application. Accordingly, the present amendment introduces no new matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the present amendment as allegedly containing new matter are therefore respectfully requested.

By the present communication, claims 9, 10, and 15 have been amended to define Applicants' invention with greater particularity. No new matter is introduced as the amended claim language is fully supported by the specification and original claims. The Examiner's suggestion of acceptable alternative claim language is acknowledged with appreciation.

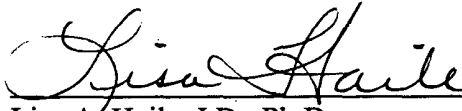
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In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and favorable action on all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the Office Action, Applicant's representative can be reached at (858) 677-1456.

Respectfully submitted,

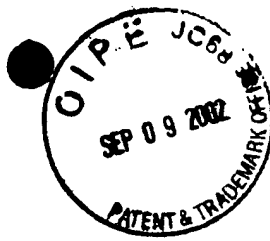
Date: August 30, 2002



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Exhibit A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

This application is a continuation and claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 of U.S. application Serial No. 09/189,343, filed November 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,083,757; which is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 08/993,664, filed December 18, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,834,223; which is a divisional of [co-pending] U.S. application Serial No. 08/339,828, filed November 14, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,705,395. The disclosures of the prior applications are considered part of and are incorporated by reference in their entirety in the disclosure of this application.

IN THE CLAIMS

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the phospholipid is present at a concentration of about 5-100 uM in the test [sample] reaction.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the phospholipid is present at a concentration of about 10-50 uM in the test [sample] reaction.

15. The method of claim 2, wherein the APC in the test [sample] reaction is present at from about 200 ng/ml to 1 ug/ml.

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